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# Message Text

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PAGE 01 KUWAIT 01499 171236Z

46
ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 SAJ-01 SAM-01 OMB-01 ACDA-19

MC-02 AID-20 IGA-02 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 EB-11 COME-00 TRSE-00 DRC-01 /170 W
---------- 092589
R 171220Z APR 74
FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
TM RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 9317
INFO SECDEF WASHDC
USCINCEUR
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUWAIT 1499

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: MASS, KU
SUBJ: KUWAIT MILITARY PROGRAM: SHAIKH SAAD PRESS CONFERENCE

REF: KUWAIT 1494

1. SHAIKH SAAD'S REMARKS DURING APRIL 16 PRESS CONFERENCE (REFTEL) GENERALLY WERE CONSISTENT WITH OUR UNDERSTANDING OF GOK MILITARY PROGRAM. WE NOTE THAT IN DISCUSSING NEGOTIATIONS FOR SAMS AND RELATED RADAR, SHAIKH SAAD DID NOT REPEAT NOT REFER TO CURRENT HAWK/TPS-32 NEGOTIATIONS PRESENTLY UNDERWAY HERE. IT SHOULD ALSO BE NOTED THAT HE DID NOT MENTION EITHER JAGUAR OR A-7. REFERENCE TO THESE SYSTEMS WAS BASED ON USG STATEMENT IN WASHINGTON.

2. ALTHOUGH MINDEF SHAIKH SAAD REMARKS SEEM GENERALLY ACCURATE PRESS HAS ONE OR TWO INCORRECT STATEMENTS. ONE PAPER FOR EXAMPLE, INDICATED KUWAITIS CONSIDERING PURCHASE OF F-4 PHANTOM AIRCRAFT. IN ADDITION, REUTERS STORY INDICATING FRENCH RADAR AND EARLY WARNING SYSTEM PART OF F-1 PACKAGE ALSO STRIKES US AS INCORRECT.
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REUTERS STORY ALSO INCORRECT IN SAYING 32 F-1S SOLD. OUR

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INFORMATION IS THAT 20 PLANES, INCLUDING 2 TRAINERS WERE SOLD. THEREFORE COST SHOULD BE WELL BELOW 1500 MILLION FRANCS AS REPORTED FROM PARIS BY REUTERS.

3. ALTHOUGH, MIRAGE DEAL UNDERSTANDABLY CAPTURED HEADLINES, DURING PRESS CONFERENCE, SHAIKH SAAD MADE IT CLEAR THAT KUWAITIS WILL BE RELYING ON BRITISH AND AMERICANS AS WELL IN OBTAINING MILITARY EQUIPMENT AND RELATED TRAINING. WHILE ACKNOWLEDGING KUWAITI INTEREST IN POSSIBLE DEALS WITH SOVIET UNION HE SEEMED TO PLAY DOWN ANY POSSIBLE DEALS WITH MOSCOW.
MCCLELLAND

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# Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994
**Channel Indicators:** n/a
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED
**Concepts:** MILITARY AIRCRAFT, MILITARY PLANS, JET AIRCRAFT, MILITARY SALES, PRESS CONFERENCES
**Control Number:** n/a
**Copy:** SINGLE
**Draft Date:** 17 APR 1974
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960
**Decaption Note:**
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED
**Disposition Approved on Date:**
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004
**Disposition Event:**
**Disposition History:** n/a
**Disposition Reason:**
**Disposition Remarks:**
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**Film Number:** D740088-0993
**From:** KUWAIT
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a
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**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a
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**Secure:** OPEN
**Status:** NATIVE
**Subject:** KUWAIT MILITARY PROGRAM: SHAIKH SAAD PRESS CONFERENCE
**TAGS:** MASS, KU, (SAAD, SHAIKH)
**To:** n/a
**Type:** TE
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

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